

Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:S/S:PSEBASTIAN:GK
APPROVED BY:S/S:SEBASTIAN
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R 292116Z JUL 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

S E C R E T STATE 188190

NODIS

FOL RPT ATHENS 7696 ACTION SECSTATE 29 JULY QUOTE

E C R E T ATHENS 7696

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT ANKARA AND NICOSIA AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU
SUBJECT: CYPRUS: MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS

1. IN MY PRIVATE MEETING LAST NIGHT WITH PRIME
MINISTER CARAMANLIS AT HIS APARTMENT PRIMARILY
TO DISCUSS ANOTHER SUBJECT (SEPTTEL), THE SUBJECT
OF CYPRUS CAME UP BRIEFLY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.
HOWEVER, I THINK THAT BY FAR THE MOST INTERESTING
AND SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THIS WAS THAT CARAMANLIS
WAS REALLY GIVING VERY LITTLE IMPORTANCE OR ATTENTION
TO THE CYPRUS ISSUE. WE DISCUSSED A WHOLE RANGE
OF QUESTIONS AND GREECE'S OVERALL INTERESTS IN THE
LARGEST SENSE. EVEN SO, ALMOST NEVER DID CARAMANLIS

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MAKE MUCH OF A REFERENCE TO CYPRUS OR REFLECT MUCH

KEEN AND CURRENT CONCERN ABOUT IT. HE TALKED ABOUT CYPRUS IN TERMS OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED TWO YEARS AGO AND DID NOT SEEM INTERESTED IN GETTING INTO DISCUSSION OF WHERE MATTERS STOOD NOW OR WHAT THE PROSPECTS WERE FOR FURTHER INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS AND A POSSIBLE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. IT WAS AS THOUGH HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT HAD RESIGNED THEMSELVES TO THE FACT THAT NO SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS ON CYPRUS WAS POSSIBLE IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE -- WHETHER BECAUSE NONE OF THE PARTIES REALLY SAW IT IN THEIR INTEREST TO MAKE CONCESSIONS OR FOR WHATEVER REASONS -- AND THAT THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS THEREFORE MUST AND COULD BE TOLERATED.

2. OBVIOUSLY, THERE IS NO WAY CARAMANLIS OR HIS GOVERNMENT COULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOREGOING AS REFLECTING THEIR CURRENT POSITION. HOWEVER, I HAVE DETECTED INCREASING DISINTEREST ON THE PART OF CARAMANLIS TO DISCUSS THE CYPRUS ISSUE IN RECENT MONTHS, AND I THINK IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT IN MY MEETING WITH HIM LAST NIGHT, WHICH WENT ON FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS, HE DISCUSSED IT ALMOST NOT AT ALL.
KUBISCH

UNQUOTEKISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, CAT-C, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE188190
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:PSEBASTIAN:GK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760006-0029
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976078/aaaaagix.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS: MEETING WITH CARAMANLIS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU, (CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE)
To: ANKARA NICOSIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006